WHEREAS, Small business has been the economic backbone of American life since the earliest colonial days. Traders, craftsmen and merchants spurred the economy and played a vital role in the Nation's westward movement and growth. They helped create the multitude of opportunities which have become the hallmark of our free enterprise system—a system which has made American progress the envy of the world; and,

WHEREAS, There are 13.9 million businesses in the United States today, and 15.4 million are small, including nearly three million farms. Together, they provide employment for over half the business labor force and account for more than 48 percent of the gross business product; and,

WHEREAS, Small business is an important source of the major innovations that create new markets and improve our quality of life. America's prestige in the world today could never have been achieved without this understanding productivity by small business; and

WHEREAS, Meetings are currently being held in every State of the Union in preparation for the first White House Conference on Small Business which the President of the United States has called for in January of 1980. This year every small business man and woman and indeed, every American, should be giving serious thought to how we may best secure and expand the small business sector of our economy in the years ahead:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM J. JANKLOW, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim the week beginning May 11, 1980, as

SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

and I call on every citizen of South Dakota to join me in this very special tribute.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Eighth Day of May, in the Year of Our Lord, Ninoteen Hundred and Eighty.

RILLIAM J KNELOW, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

ALICE KUNDERT, SECRETARY OF STATE